Asia. The Hardware of the PARAM 10,000 comprises of open frame architecture and is complemented by a comprehensive repertoire of Systems and Application Software. The Systems Software compliment includes a number of language compilers, tools, utilities and libraries. Application areas include Numerical Weather Prediction, Climate Modelling, Seismic Data Warehousing, Electronic Governance, Bank Automation, Financial Trading Simulator etc. PARAM series of high-performance computers are suitable for Academic, Universities, Research Laboratories for Scientific and Engineering Applications and the industry of Business Computing Solutions.

India's relation with Pakistan

347. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seriously taken any steps to improve relations with Pakistan during the past few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved during the past three months in this direction;

(c) whether the attitude of some political parties on the question of visit of Pakistani Hockey, Cricket teams to India had any adverse impact on the relations between both the countries; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) to (d) Government wish to build a relationship of peace, friendship and cooperation with Pakistan. As part of India's desire to build such a relationship. Prime Minister Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee visited Pakistan on February 20-21. 1999 on the inaugural run of the Delhi-Lahore-Delhi Bus Service. During his visit, the Prime Minister conveyed to the Government and people of Pakistan India's deep desire for peace and friendship with them and to develop a comprehensive structure of cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples. The Prime Minister and the Pakistan Prime Minister signed the Lahore Declaration which is a landmark for the peace and security of the two countries India and Pakistan will now work to enter into agreements to put into place far-reaching Confidence Building Measures. The two countries also identified new and significant areas of cooperation such as information technology and decided to address humanitarian issued at a ministerial level on an urgent basis. Government expect that the Prime Minister's historic initiative for the welfare of the peoples of the two countries and his reiteration that a secure, stable and prosperous Pakistan is in India's interest will mark a new chapter in our bilateral ties.

Government place strong emphasis on developing relations in the fields of culture, sports and people-to-people contacts. The visits of the Pakistan hockey and cricket teams are seen in this context. The Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, in their Joint Statement of 21 February 1999, expressed satisfaction at the renewal of the contacts in the field of sports. A copy of the Statement is enclosed.

Statement

In reponse to an invitation by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharief, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee visited Pakistan from 20-21 February, 1999, on the inaugural run of the Delhi-Labore bus service.

2. The Prime Minister of Pakistan received the Indian Prime Minister at the Wagah border on 20 February 1999. A banquet in honour of the Indian Prime Minister and his delegation was hosted by the Prime Minsiter of Pakistan at Lahore Fort, on the same evening. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee visited

Minar-e-Pakistan, Mausoleum of Allama Iqbal, Gurudawara Dera Sahib and Samadhi of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh. On 21st February, a civic reception was held in honour of the visiting Prime Minister at the Governor's House.

3. The two leaders held discussions on the entire range of bilateral relations, regional cooperation within SAARC, and issues of international concern. They decided that:

(a) The two Foreign Ministers will meet periodically to discuss all issues of mutual concern, including nuclear related issues.

(b) The two sides shall undertake consultations on WTO related issues with a view to coordinating their respective positions.

(c) The two sides shall determine areas of cooperation in Information Technology, in particular for tackling the problems of Y2K.

(d) The two sides will hold consultations with a view to further liberalizing the visa and travel regime.

(e) The two sides shall appoint a 2 member committee at ministerial level to examine humanitarian issues relating to Civilian detainees and missing POWs.

4. They expressed satisfaction on the commencement of a Bus Service between Lahore and New Delhi, the release of fishermen and civilian detainees and the renewal of contracts in the field of sports.

5. Pursuant to the directive given by the two Prime Ministers, the Foreign Secretaries of Pakistan and India signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 21 February 1999, identifying measures aimed at promoting an environment of peace and security between the two countries.

6. The two Prime Ministers signed the Lahore Declaration embodying their shared vision of peace and stability between their countries and of progress and prosperity for their peoples.

7. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee extended an invitation to Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif to visit India on mutually convenient dates.

8. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee thanked Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Shrif for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality extended to him and members of his delegation and for the excellent arrangements made for his visit.

Lahore,
February 21, 1999.

भारत, चीन और रूस के बीच त्रिपक्षीय सहयोग

348. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रूस के प्रधान मंत्री ने भारत में यह कहा कि भारत, चीन और रूस के बीच त्रिपक्षीय सहयोग का विचार है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि रूसी राजदूत ने कहा है कि भारत के विरुद्ध लगाए गए "ग्लोबल हाई-टेक" प्रतिबंध धीरे-धीरे हटाए जाने चाहिए;

(ग) क्या भारत ने रूस के साथ इन दोनों मुद्दों पर और आगे बातचीत की है; यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री जसवन्त सिंह): (क) रूसी परिसंघ के प्रधान मंत्री श्री वाई० एम० प्रिमाकोव ने 20 से 22 दिसम्बर, 1998 तक भारत की सरकारी यात्रा के दौरान अपनी ऐसा कोई औपचारिक प्रस्ताव नहीं रखा था। तथापि, 21 दिसम्बर, 1998 को समाचार तंत्र से बात करते हुए श्री प्रिमाकोव ने इस प्रकार के त्रिपक्षीय सहयोग का सामान्य तौर पर जिक्र किया था, केवल इतना ही कि इस क्षेत्र में बहुत कुछ रूस, भारत और चीन द्वारा अपनाई गई नीतियों पर निर्भर करता है और यह भी कहा कि 'क्षेत्र में सुरक्षा एवं स्थिरता के लिए यह अच्छा होगा'।

(ख) रूसी परिसंघ भारत के खिलाफ प्रतिबंध लगाने के विरुद्ध रहा है।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।